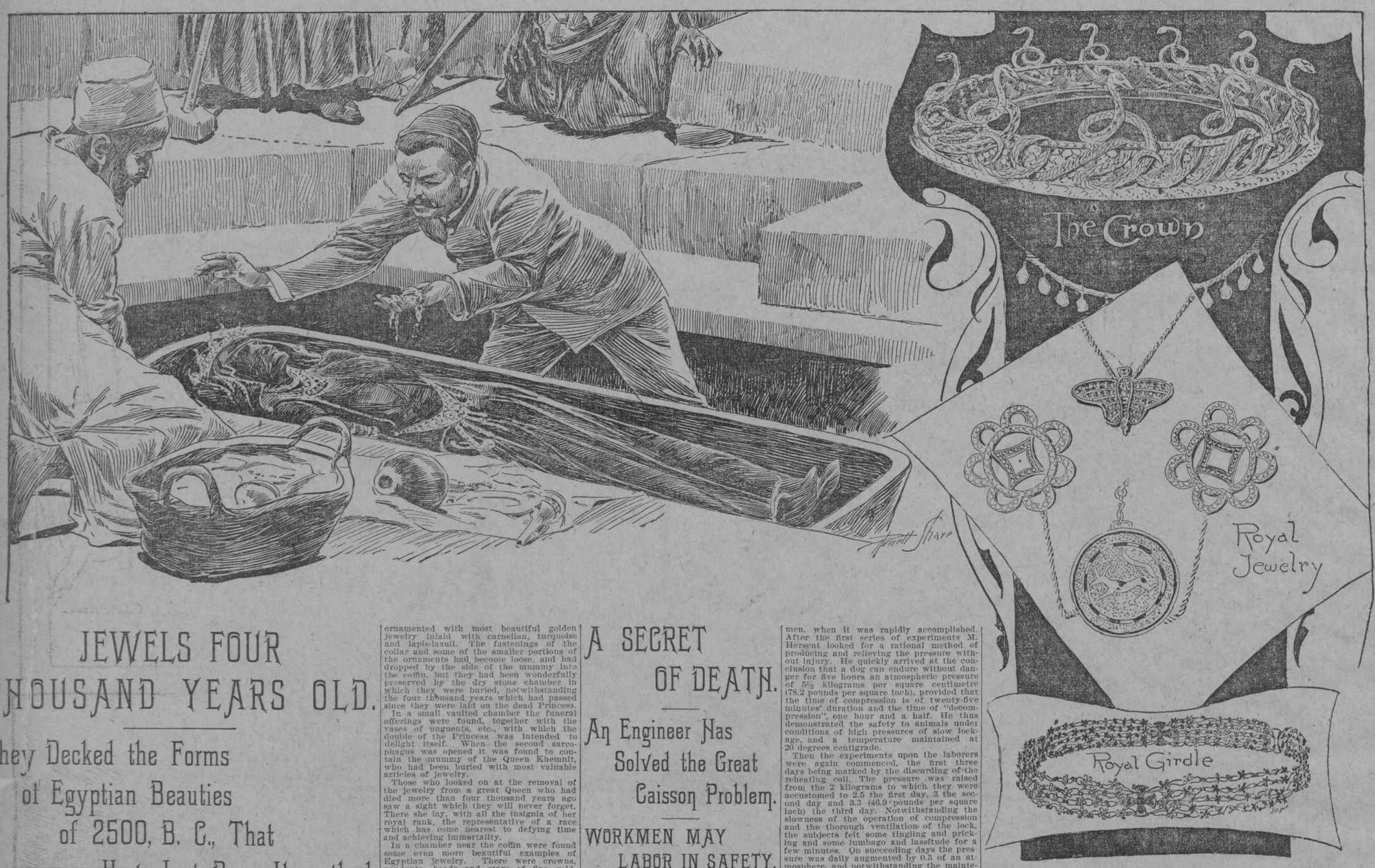
Unearthing the Jewels of an Egyptian Princess, 4000 Years Old.



JEWELS FOUR THOUSAND YEARS OLD.

They Decked the Forms of Egyptian Beauties of 2500, B. C., That Have Just Been Unearthed.

A scene depicted in the Sunday Journal shows nothing less than the bringing to the light of to-day of the bodies of two royal women, who lived at least 4,396 years ago. They wear jewels of a magnificence which proves alone that they were great and fashionable.

These women flourished at a period when all Europe was plunged in the darkest savagery, before even Greece had begun to emerge from it, at a time when even the ancient Jewish race was in its earliest infancy. They had been dead 3,000 years before the Anglo-Saxon barbarians colonized England. Compared to the civilization which these remains represent all existing civilization is ludicrously new.

In that immensely long ago they lived and loved, and were the heart of a cultivated society, for we know that in ancient Egypt women were free and powerful, and not as in modern Oriental countries. Intrigues of all kinds were part of that society, as they have been of every similar society, and we can be sure that stories are woven into the lives of those women, stories of those early days of the human race, which, if we knew them, would yet move our hearts. From the form of their heads, we may judge that they were beautiful, assuming, of course, that they also had that beauty which is skin deep. By them doubtless princes and statesmen and great soldiers were made happy, or suffered death, and for them the mysteries of a magic which the modern world, with all its science, has barely been able to guess at, were put in working.

The women were a queen and a princess of ancient Egypt, of the Twelfth Dynasty, which began about 2,500 B. C. Their bodies and jewels have been discovered by M. de Morgan, a young French Egyptologist, who has made some wonderful discoveries within a few years. Inscriptions show that they were Queen Khnemit and Princess Ha.

M. de Morgan is Director-General of the Service of Egyptian Antiquities. During the Winter of 1893-1894 he first visited a stony plateau on the left bank of the Nile, a few hours to the southwest of Cairo. There are situated the famous pyramids of Dahshur; a little to the north are the pyramids of the Kings of the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties; the "step" pyramid of Sakkara and other important monuments. The whole district is full of tombs, and all scholars have admitted this fact, yet, strangely enough, no systematic excavations have hitherto been made throughout it.

Rightly conjecturing that his predecessors had discovered the most important remains that were to be found at the north of the plateau, M. de Morgan turned his attention to the southern end, and the results of his labors have fully justified his decision. Having arranged to live on the spot, so that the greatest advantage might result to archaeology from his labors, M. de Morgan began work with a large gang of laborers. He found it necessary to make first a general clearance of the sand, stones and rubbish which had accumulated, partly through the decay of the buildings and partly through the excavations of other investigators, so that a plan of the walls which surrounded the pyramids might be made out, and any traces of tombs cut in the solid rock might be noticed.

It was customary among the Egyptians for officials high in the service of their kings to be buried in rock-hewn tombs in the neighborhood of their pyramids. Such tombs have not the importance of pyramids, but they are, notwithstanding, of great value archaeologically. To these tombs the name of mastaba has been given by the natives, and in the great pyramid-field which extends from Gizeh to Dahshur many hundreds of them have been found. Mastaba tombs consist of three parts—an upper chamber above ground, a shaft and a subterranean chamber, in which the sarcophagus is placed. The entrance to the shaft is always carefully concealed, and only long practice will enable the excavator to hit upon the spot where an opening is to be made.

Soon after work was begun at Dahshur fragments of inscriptions of Kings of the Twelfth Dynasty, about 2500 B. C., were found, and these served to indicate the age of the monuments found thereabouts. Further excavations resulted in the discovery of a pit and a gallery in which were a number of tombs that showed plainly the marks of the professional robber. From the remains found there it was clear that they had been tenanted by the bodies of princesses of the Twelfth Dynasty.

Close by a box filled with handsome gold and silver jewelry was found, and it was thought that the box had escaped the hands of the robbers by accident. It is more probable, however, that these gold and silver ornaments were removed from the mummies by the hands of priests or others who had cause to think that they would be stolen, and that they were hidden in a place where the professional thief, expecting to find nothing, would not search.

The work at the northern brick pyramid at Dahshur having come to an end, M. de Morgan next attacked the southern pyramid, the upper part of which had, however, been removed by the natives, who built the bricks into their houses. A wall ran round the pyramid, and between it and the pyramid were buried the royal children. At the northeast corner a tomb of very considerable importance was found, for it proved to be that of a royal personage called Au-ab-Ra, whose existence has been hitherto unsuspected. Of the circumstances under which he lived and died nothing is known, but it is assumed that he was a contemporary of Amenemhat III., and that he either reigned with him or after him, but before Amenemhat IV. ascended the throne. For a man who was at one time "King of Upper and Lower Egypt," his tomb was unusually mean.

Having cleared out all the mastaba tombs on the north and northeast sides of the pyramid of Amenemhat III., M. de Morgan began work on the west side, and here, as elsewhere, success crowned his labors. All the ground was carefully examined, and at length the entrances to a number of shafts leading to subterranean sarcophagi chambers were discovered.

Recently M. de Morgan came upon an opening which led by an inclined plane to a gallery, and believing, for several reasons, that the tomb there had not been rifled, he removed the coverin, and laid bare the gallery to the light of day. On the following day, when room had been made to open the sarcophagi which had been placed there, the cover of one was lifted, and, to the great joy of all concerned, it was found to be tenanted by the mummy of the Princess Ha, which was ornamented with most beautiful golden jewelry inlaid with carnelian, turquoise and lapis-lazuli. The fastenings of the collar and some of the smaller portions of the ornaments had become loose, and had dropped by the side of the mummy into the coffin, but they had been wonderfully preserved by the dry stone chamber in which they were buried, notwithstanding the four thousand years which had passed since they were laid on the dead Princess.

In a small vaulted chamber the funeral offerings were found, together with the vases of unguents, etc., with which the double of the Princess was intended to delight itself. When the second sarcophagus was opened it was found to contain the mummy of the Queen Khemnit, who had been buried with most valuable articles of jewelry.

Those who looked on at the removal of the jewelry from a great Queen who had died more than four thousand years ago saw a sight which they will never forget. There she lay, with all the insignia of her royal rank, the representative of a race which has come nearest to defying time and achieving immortality.

In a chamber near the coffin were found some even more beautiful examples of Egyptian jewelry. There were crowns, pendants, beads and stars of fine gold. They had belonged to the dead women. Very beautiful effects are produced by the inlaying of carnelian, lapis-lazuli and turquoise. The patterns are simple, but very artistic.

VANDALS IN SKYSCRAPERS

The Owners of One of New York's Great Structures Have Been Forced to Bar the Towers to the Public.

The individual who has a mania for carving out a name for himself, not on the immortal pages of fame, but in some public place, has found a new field of industry. He goes hand in hand with the crank who goes about like a geologist with a little hammer and chisel clipping off mementos to the intense disgust of others who love to see a thing of beauty undefaced.

These two, whose presence the community can do without, have in years past contented themselves with desecrating monuments, the Obelisk and public buildings. They have crawled around like an inky-legged fly, leaving in their track ineffaceable evidences of their visits. But now they have wearied of their old haunts, the custodians of which have also wearied of them, and, like Alexander, sigh for new worlds to conquer.

They have discovered that several of the new record-breaking sky-scrapers present unexceptionally fine opportunities for the exercise of their calling, which is vandalism, pure and simple, although they take deep offence when it is characterized as such. Observatories have been placed on top, which command a sweeping view of the city and harbor below, spread out like a panorama. The American Tract Society Building has one of these sky-touched eyries. It has an oval roof and little windows opening on all sides. It is twenty-two stories above the ground and was until a few days ago the Mecca of people desirous of taking a birds-eye view of the city.

But now it is closed to the public. The owners of the building have been forced to suspend their courtesy because of the havoc that has been wrought by the modern vandals. Soon after the observatory was opened to the public they appeared. In the American Tract Building there is a beautiful onyx drinking fountain, which the vandals chipped and cracked until it had to be replaced. On the walls countless names were written; sometimes they were signed to couples descriptive of the travels of the author, who had probably seen as much of the world as Hoboken. The vandals glory in this kind of thing. They actually delight to emblazon to the whole world their ill breeding. Sometimes they scratch their initials on the windows. They have one failing, however. They forget to also inscribe their addresses. If they did so, it would not be long before they would be prosecuted for malicious destruction of private property.

While the stronger sex seems more fully represented in the ranks of the vandals, women, or at least some of them, cannot refrain from scratching their names with a diamond in their ring. Among the buildings that have suffered are the Manhattan Life, the Mutual, the Produce Exchange, the Equitable and several Wall street buildings. The rising generation contributes many recruits to the army of vandals. Messenger boys are the bane of the janitors. Some of these youngsters hate to leave a building before they have inscribed their autograph on its walls. The sinfulness of the vandals has closed the top of many of these sky-scrapers to those who come solely to enjoy the view.

A SECRET OF DEATH.

An Engineer Has Solved the Great Caisson Problem.

WORKMEN MAY LABOR IN SAFETY.

Illy Regulated Pressure and Rapid Changes Have Caused the Disasters.

Investigations of a unique character are now being conducted in France to determine at how great a depth and under how heavy pressure laborers at work on submarine foundations can exist in the caissons.

Owing to the prospective erection of the new bridges over the North and East rivers, American civil engineers and savants of kindred sciences are doubly interested. In the construction of the East River gas tunnel, for instance, it was a common occurrence for at least one man a day to be taken to the hospital, and sometimes to the Morgue, through the crudeness of the life-saving devices. The same may be said of the still unfinished tunnel to Hoboken, while the Brooklyn Bridge also added its quota of victims.

This sacrifice of life to transportation may be avoided in the future through the experiments of M. Hersent, a civil engineer of France.

Studies for important work, especially the Channel bridge, which requires submerged foundations more than 25 metres deep, induced M. Hersent to experiment upon the possibility of providing precaution to guard against accident to workmen under pressure heretofore considered dangerous. His investigations were based on the belief that the injuries from work under pressure were chiefly due to the too great rapidity with which the men passed from a compressed to a normal atmosphere, and to the chills resulting from the rapid expansions of the gases in the body. He believed it to be of the first importance to allow the gases to insensibly attain their normal expansions and to provide constant heat to compensate for the cooling produced. His first experiments were upon animals confined in chambers provided with thermometers, manometers and steam-heating coils, lighted by electricity and furnished with glass windows, through which continuous observations could be made. In the second experiments, upon men, the pressure chambers were furnished with telephones providing constant communication with the exterior.

The men were first subjected to a pressure of two kilograms per square metre, which is equivalent to a pressure of 28.4 pounds per square inch, to which most of them were accustomed, and which did not cause any unusual sensations. As one hour was considered sufficient to permit the complete dissolution of gas under the new pressure, that length of time was taken as the usual under the maximum pressure. These experiments upon the laborers were based upon the results obtained by M. Hersent in his experiments on dogs, whose organic construction more closely resembles that of man than any other animal.

In this series the only effect of compressed air upon the canines seemed to be a manifestation of surprise. They showed no unwillingness to endure a second experiment. Reducing the compression produced the same effect upon them as upon men, when it was rapidly accomplished. After the first series of experiments M. Hersent looked for a rational method of producing and relieving the pressure without injury. He quickly arrived at the conclusion that a dog can endure without danger for five hours an atmospheric pressure of 5½ kilograms per square centimetre (78.2 pounds per square inch), provided that the time of compression is of twenty-five minutes' duration and the time of "decompression" one hour and a half. He thus demonstrated the safety to animals under conditions of high pressures of slow leakage, and a temperature maintained at 20 degrees centigrade.

Then the experiments upon the laborers were again commenced, the first three days being marked by the discarding of the reheating coil. The pressure was raised from the 2 kilograms to which they were accustomed to 2.5 the first day, 3 the second day and 3.3 (46.9 pounds per square inch) the third day. Notwithstanding the slowness of the operation of compression and the thorough ventilation of the lock, the subjects felt some tingling and pricking and some lumbago and lassitude for a few minutes. On succeeding days the pressure was daily augmented by 0.3 of an atmosphere, and notwithstanding the maintenance of the temperature at 20 degrees by use of the steam coil, they still felt temporarily the above described symptoms. At pressures of from 4.6 to 5.4 kilograms per suare centimetre (65.4 to 76.7 pounds per square inch), the same symptoms were experienced without any accidents, and a sulphur bath after each experiment removed all discomfort.

In each of these experiments the time allowed for the compression and "decompression" was augmented in proportion to the increase of the maximum pressure; thus when the men were exposed for an hour to a pressure of 5.4 kilograms the time of compression was one hour and of "decompression" three hours. It was thus demonstrated that without overtaxing the workmen they can labor uninterruptedly for four hours or more under a pressure of 5.4 kilograms or more; that is to say, at 50 metres depth below sea level, on condition that they should experience a very slow compression and "decompression" and have a temperature uniformly maintained.

Thus far the work will be as satisfactory as that done in the free air, and for four hours of labor it will be necessary to allow one hour for compression and one hour for "decompression." One extremely important factor of the system, however, is the perfect and methodical compression of the air. If this is not observed, lumbago or the lassitude so universally experienced by divers will be the inevitable result. The time spent in the lock and the use of the sulphur bath—three hours—should be made compulsory, and the air-cocks in the locks should be secured from tampering of the workmen who consider the precautions unnecessary and extreme. It is only by the use of such severe regulation that injuries can be avoided to the workmen, and that they can be enabled to work without inconvenience at the grater and greater depths that are required to-day in important submerged work of constantly increasing magnitude.

CHURCH THIEVES.

They Are So Persistent as to Warrant the Belief That They Find It Profitable.

In proportion to their number there are as many churches robbed every year by burglars and sneak thieves in New York City as there are private residences entered. The daily papers report attempts to rob poor boxes, to loot pews and sittings of valuable furnishings and books, and even to remove crosses and sacred vessels and vestments used in altar services.

Probably the most daring and successful attempt at looting a church in this city was the despoliation of the Thirty-fourth Street Baptist Church on the south side of that thoroughfare, two doors west of Sixth avenue. This occurred a few weeks ago, and there was hardly enough of the interior left to waste walls in its protection.

Another and similar case of vandalism was that perpetrated at St. Jospeh's Roman Catholic Church at No. 177 Washington avenue. Here, in addition, the mite boxes were broken into and the offerings of the devout—none of whom was overburdened with worldly wealth—were appropriated by the sacrilegious intruders.

Nor have these church thieves' visits been confined to Christian edifices alone. On June 5, 1894, the sexton of Temple Emuno Israel, No. 301 West Twenty-ninth street, was shocked on entering the synagogue to find that burglars had broken in during the night and stolen vestments, vessels and ornaments valued at $400, besides wantonly destroying parchments and records valued at $450 more. Among the valuables secured were the Rabbi's silver pointer and a rich altar cover. Timothy Mooney when arrested on suspicion by officers of the West Thirty-seventh Street Station, threw away the pieces of the scroll which he had destroyed, and which the congregation valued very highly.

A CHILD IN PRISON FOR WHISPERING

Little Ina Crabtree Whispered in Church and Was Sent to Jail for Ten Days.

"The law, always a shepherd to the strong, often a wolf to the weak."—Russian Proverb.

Sheriff Ricksey was making fast the night-bolts on the outer doors of the County Jail at Portsmouth, O., a few nights ago, when he heard the big street-bell ring. There had been no talk about lynching any of the prisoners, but he dropped the extra cross-bars into the slots and got his shotgun out before he answered the summons.

When he peeped through the grating of the little Judas-hole in the steel door panel he saw Dan Mershon, the Constable of Morgan Township (twenty-six miles north of Portsmouth), standing outside in the driving sleet.

The Constable's face was close to the latticed opening, but the storm was so violent that at first the Sheriff could not understand what was wanted. When he made out that the Constable wished to come in he opened the heavy door. Mershon, benumbed by his cold five hours' drive, stumbled across the threshold carrying in his arms something that looked like a roll of shabby horse-clothes.

Laying his burden on the floor, while the Sheriff bolted the door again, the Constable opened the rough stable blanket and disclosed a little girl about ten years old blue with cold, in a dead faint.

The Sheriff, who has daughters of his own, laid his coat on a bench and the child on his coat and got her shoes off, unfastened her dress, and rubbed her chest with whiskey. When the heat from the stove had relaxed her stiffened muscles, the little girl opened her eyes and looked at the long, paved corridor and the row of whitewashed cell doors. The Sheriff saw her lip shake, and told her that she must not mind the place not being pretty.

"It's better than being lost out on the road," he said, "and it's lucky Dan happened to find you. Can you eat lemon pie?"

Sheriff Ricksey is a hoarse man, with a large face, but he knows how to talk to babies.

"I'm hungry," said the child, "but I haven't been lost. My name is Ina Crabtree, and I have got to be locked up in prison for ten nights because I whispered in meeting down at McCulloch Church. Squire Cooper tried me and sentenced me. And then the little girl looked at the cell doors again and began to cry.

The Sheriff, dumfounded, looked at the Constable. The Constable nodded, gravely corroborating the statement.

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McCulloch is a cross-roads hamlet, a[n] the pulpit of the church is occupied by one journeyman revivalist after another. When Ina Crabtree, ten years of age, whispered to the little girl sitting by her, the Rev. Silas Cummins, an evangelist from the Sunfish District of Pike County, was preaching. Isaac Pyles, who seems to have assumed the station of beadle in the church, heard the whisper and told Ina to be quiet. The child tried to be good, and after a time forgot where she was and whispered again.

Pyles rose from his pew, scowling at the little girl and left the church. When the congregation was dismissed, Constable Mershon was waiting on the steps. Pyles had lodged a complaint on information against Ina, and she was arrested as she came out of the building. An orphan, she lives with her uncle, Stephen Crabtree, and he was with her when the Constable made this extraordinary arrest.

But neither he nor any of his neighbors seems to have attempted to oppose the Constable. He asked if his undertaking to produce the child in the Justice's office the next day would not satisfy the exigencies of the situation, but Mershon took Ina away and locked her up in a bedroom in his own house over night. In the morning Squire Solomon Cooper tried the case; and his sentence was that Ina should pay a fine of $5, should pay the costs of the prosecution, and should lie in the county jail at Portsmouth for the space of ten days.

A man named Swords went to the penitentiary for biting off Squire Cooper's nose, one day, in the course of a fight at a Pond Creek picnic. It is an old story now, this mouthful of nose, but in connection with this matter of Ina Crabtree one thinks of it with a certain satisfaction.

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Good Sheriff Ricksey did not put Ina in a cell. He took her to his own house, next door to the jail, and found dry clothes for her and gave her all the lemon pie she could eat. And after she had been in his kindly custody for two days, the County Commissioners, at their weekly meeting, ordered that Ina should be released.

But there is the fact: a child was arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced and imprisoned for having whispered in church. I wonder whether the children were whispering when Philip pushed them aside, while our Saviour preached upon the mount? If they were they did not go to jail—"for such is the kingdom of Heaven."

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